

What is claimed is:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:
 - an intrablock pixel position judging section for judging pixel position within a block in which pixels constituting image are divided in units of plural pixels;
 - a shifted pixel designating section for designating shifted pixel to be shifted in accordance with the pixel position judged by the intrablock pixel position judging section;
 - a phase calculating section for determining phase quantity of intrablock dot cluster for every block; and
 - a pixel value shift section for carrying out shift from respective pixels within the block to the shifted pixel on the basis of the phase quantity determined by the phase calculating section and, value differences of respective pixels within the block and value of the shifted pixel.
2. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, the pixel value shift section comprising :
 - a shift operation/reference position selecting section for generating a reference position signal and a shift operation select signal from coordinate of main scanning direction and coordinate of sub scanning direction within the block; and
 - a shift operation section for carrying out shift operation from pixel data and phase quantity supplied to an operation circuit, which is selected by the shift operation select signal.
3. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the block is a group of pixels consisting of a predetermined number of pixels arranged in the main scanning direction.
4. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 3, wherein the shifted pixel is two pixels or more adjacent within the block.

004060-0734
F09040-009040

5. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the pixel value shift section comprises:
shift quantity judging means for determining
distribution of shift quantity to the shifted pixel of
respective pixels within the block on the basis of the phase
quantity, values of respective pixels within the block and
value of the shifted pixel; and
a shift operation section for shifting the shift
quantity to the shifted pixel.
6. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 5,
wherein the shift operation section serves to carry
out shift operation so as to shift (move), in a distributed
manner, pixel quantity of shift pixel with respect to plural
different pixels in accordance with the phase quantity.
7. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 6,
wherein distributing shift (movement) of pixel
quantity of shift pixel by the shift operation section is
carried out in such a manner that center of gravity position
by pixels within block before shift is also maintained after
shifting.
8. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the shifted pixel position judging section
determines shift pixel position in such a manner that shifted
pixels are linearly disposed in the main scanning direction
or in the sub scanning direction.
9. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the shifted pixel position judging section
determines shift pixel position in such a manner that shifted
pixels are disposed in a distributed manner on line having
a predetermined angle with respect to the main scanning
direction or the sub scanning direction.

F03E0203030405

10. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the image processing apparatus further comprises a recording device drive signal generating section for generating a recording device drive signal on the basis of output of the pixel value shift section.

11. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein the image processing apparatus serves to process color image, and

the shifted pixel position judging section determines shift pixel position in such a manner that angles of line on which shifted pixels are disposed in a distributed manner are caused to be different with respect to plural images obtained by carrying out color separation of color image.

12. An image processing system comprising:

an image reading unit for reading image on manuscript;

and

an image processing unit for processing the image which has been read at the image reading unit to output processed data,

wherein the image processing unit comprises:

an intrablock pixel position judging section for judging pixel position within a block in which pixels constituting image are divided in units of plural pixels;

a shifted pixel designating section for designating shifted pixel to be shifted in accordance with the pixel position judged by the intrablock pixel position judging section;

a phase calculating section for determining phase quantity of intrablock dot cluster for every block; and

a pixel value shift section for carrying out shift from respective pixels within the block to the shifted pixel on the basis of the phase quantity determined by the phase calculating section, and value differences of respective pixels within the block and value of the shifted pixel.

09749503-072504

14. An image processing system as set forth in claim 13,
which further comprises an image formation unit for
forming copy image of the manuscript in accordance the
recording device drive signal.